

CLAIMS

1. A method for generating monoclonal antibodies in a Th1-biased rodent comprising the steps of:
 - a) administering a Th1 antagonist in combination with a Th2 agonist to the rodent;
 - b) immunizing the rodent with an antigen-encoding nucleic acid; and
 - c) isolating antigen-specific monoclonal antibodies.
2. A method for generating monoclonal antibodies in a Th1-biased rodent comprising the steps of:
 - a) administering a Th1 antagonist in combination with a Th2 agonist to the rodent;
 - b) immunizing the rodent with an antigen-encoding nucleic acid;
 - d) administering the antigen without a foreign adjuvant; and
 - d) isolating antigen-specific monoclonal antibodies.
3. The method of claim 1 or 2 wherein the rodent is a mouse.
4. The method of claim 3 wherein the mouse is a C57BL/6 mouse.
5. The method of claim 1 or 2 wherein the rodent is a rat.
6. The method of claim 1 or 2 wherein the Th1 antagonist is a nucleic acid or a protein.
7. The method of claim 6 wherein the Th1 antagonist is a monoclonal antibody that interferes with Th1 development.
8. The method of claim 7 wherein the Th1 antagonist is an anti-IL-12, anti-IFN- γ or anti-IL-18 antibody.
9. The method of claim 1 or 2 wherein the Th2 agonist is modified to extend its half-life.

10. The method of claim 9 wherein the Th2 agonist is pegylated IL-4, pegylated IL-5 or pegylated IL-6.
11. The method of claim 1 or 2 wherein the antigen-encoding nucleic acid is administered intradermally.
12. The method of claim 1 or 2 wherein the monoclonal antibodies are human.
13. The method of claim 2 wherein the antigen is administered intradermally.
14. A method for generating human monoclonal antibodies in a C57BL/6 mouse comprising the steps of:
 - a) administering peglyated IL-4 in combination with an anti-IL-12 monoclonal antibody to the mouse;
 - b) immunizing the mouse by administering an antigen-encoding nucleic acid intradermally;
 - c) administering the antigen without a foreign adjuvant intradermally; and
 - d) isolating antigen-specific monoclonal antibodies.
15. A method for generating human monoclonal antibodies in a C57BL/6 mouse comprising the steps of:
 - a) administering peglyated IL-4 in combination with an anti-IL-12 monoclonal antibody to the mouse;
 - b) immunizing the mouse by administering an antigen-encoding nucleic acid intradermally; and
 - c) isolating antigen-specific monoclonal antibodies.